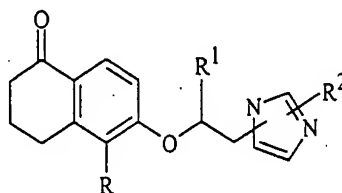


ABSTRACT

The present invention provides methods and compositions for inhibiting $A\beta$ synthesis and for treating Alzheimer's disease by administering a farnesyl transferase inhibitor of the formula:

5



wherein R is hydrogen, alkyl, and substituted alkyl; R^1 is hydrogen, phenyl, or substituted phenyl; and R^2 is hydrogen or benzyl.